

**FILED**

DEC 12 2024

Steven H. Silverstein  
2105 2<sup>nd</sup> Place  
Kenosha, Wisconsin 53140

CLERK OF SUPREME COURT  
OF WISCONSIN

RE: In support of PETITION 24-05 (Amendment to Supreme Court Rule (SCR) 13.045)

To the Supreme Court Clerk Office:

I am writing in support of Petition 24-05, amending SCR 13.045 to increase the annual attorney assessment that supports civil legal aid. I am an inactive, paying State Bar member (#1003121). I do volunteer work for Legal Action of Wisconsin (LAW), assisting in pardons, and, for the most part, drafting pardon petitions. I also assist the applicant in other aspects of the pardon process such as securing letters of reference.

In a pro bono role, I receive a large amount of support from LAW. For starters, they provide online CLE training on how to prepare the petition and help manage other aspects of the application. At each stage of the process, LAW provides applicant guides, recommendations and tips. They also provide the necessary Crime Information Bureau history, intake data and assistance in securing other essential data (e.g., CCAP). Moreover, LAW is always responsive to requests made by me or the applicant.

As a retired attorney, this volunteer work is a rewarding experience, aiding individuals worthy of a second chance. In my experience, the completed process broadens job opportunities (particularly in a licensed field), secures better housing and restores other rights (e.g., voting, hunting). These individuals are usually not on a position to pay for a lawyer. For this population, LAW plays an extraordinary role in serving these individuals and the proposed increase in funding advances much needed access to rehabilitative justice.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven H. Silverstein  
Text/Phone: (513) 293-6356

Copy forwarded to petitioners via email to Honorable Richard Sankovitz:

- Legal Action of Wisconsin
- Wisconsin Equal Justice Fund
- Wisconsin Access to Justice Commission
- Judicare Legal Aid
- Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee
- Disability Rights Wisconsin
- Judicare Legal Aid
- Centro Legal
- Advocacy and Benefits Counseling for Health